WE CLAIM: ~~Claims~~

1. Composite body consisting of a carrier and at least one decorative layer made from a natural material connected therewith, characterized in that the carrier consists substantially of at least one natural (and/or synthetic) thermoplastic or thermoelastic polymer.

2. Composite body according to claim 1, characterized in that the carrier consists of a natural polymer on the basis of lignin.

3. Composite body according to claim 1, characterized in that the carrier consists of at least one polyolefine, polyamide, polyester, polyacetate, polycarbonate, polyurethane, vinylpolymer or a copolymer thereof.

4. Composite body according to any one of the claims 1 through 3, characterized in that the carrier consists of a polymer blend of at least one synthetic and at least one natural polymer, in particular lignin.

5. Composite body according to any one of the claims 1 through 4, characterized in that the carrier is reinforced with natural fibers, e.g. hemp, cellulose, wood fibers or the like.

6. Composite body according to any one of the claims 1 through 5, characterized in that the decorative layer comprises a wooden veneer.

7. Composite body according to any one of the claims 1 through 6, characterized in that the decorative layer comprises a fleece, interlacing, woven fabric, knitted fabric, plaited material or the like of natural fibers.

8. Composite body according to claim 6, characterized in that a fleece, interlacing, woven fabric, knitted fabric, plaited material or the like is disposed between the plate-shaped carrier and the wooden veneer.

9. Composite body according to claim 8, characterized in that the fleece, interlacing, woven fabric, knitted fabric, or plaited material consists of natural fibers.

10. Composite body according to claim 9, characterized in that the natural fibers are hemp fibers.

11. The use of a composite body in accordance with any one of the claims 1 through 10 for floor coverings, in particular parquet.

12. The use of a composite body in accordance with any one of the claims 1 through 10, for wall or ceiling paneling.

13. The use of a composite body in accordance with any one of the claims 1 through 10, for inlaid works, in particular tarsia.

14. Use according to claim 13 for the visible sides of furniture, musical instruments, housings, interior paneling and fittings of automotive vehicles.

15. Method for the production of a composite body in accordance with any one of the claims 1 through 10, characterized in that the decorative layer is pressed into a carrier consisting of at least one natural and/or synthetic thermoplastic or thermoelastic polymer, at an increased pressure and increased temperature.

16. Method according to claim 15, characterized in that the decorative layer is inserted into a hot press, the carrier is disposed thereon and the decorative layer is pressed into the surface of the carrier by closing the press.

17. Method according to claim 15 or 16, characterized in that the pressing force is between 40 and 400 bar.

18. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 17, characterized in that the pressing temperature is between 120 and 180°C.

19. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 18, characterized in that the pressing depth of the decorative layer substantially corresponds to the thickness of the decorative layer.

20. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 18, characterized in that the pressing depth of the covering layer is smaller than its thickness.

21. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 20, characterized in that several decorative layers of different kinds are inserted into the hot press and are pressed together with the carrier.

22. Method according to claim 21, characterized in that several decorative layers are inserted into the hot press, partially covering or overlapping one another, and are pressed together with the carrier.

23. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 22, characterized in that after insertion of the decorative layer, a fiber layer is inserted into the hot press and the layers are pressed together with the carrier.

24. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 23, characterized in that a surface structure is embossed on the decorative layer.

25. Method according to any one of the claims 15 through 24, characterized in that the carrier is mixed with natural reinforcing fibers, e.g. hemp, cellulose, wood fibers or the like.